



Introduced Version

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION expressing the sense of the Indiana General Assembly regarding high-level visits to the United States by democratically elected officials of Taiwan.

Waterman

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION expressing the sense of the Indiana General Assembly regarding high-level visits to the United States by democratically elected officials of Taiwan.

Whereas, For over half a century, a close relationship has existed between the United States and Taiwan that has been of enormous political, economic, cultural, and strategic advantage to both countries;

Whereas, Taiwan is one of the United States' strongest democratic allies in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, It is United States policy to support and strengthen democracy around the world;

Whereas, During the late 1980s and early 1990s, Taiwan made a remarkable transition to a full-fledged democracy with a vibrant economy and a vigorous multiparty political system that respects human rights and the rule of law;

Whereas, In spite of its praise for democracy in Taiwan, the United States government continues to adhere to guidelines from the 1970s that bar the President, Vice President, Premier, Foreign Minister, and Defense Minister of Taiwan from coming to Washington, D.C.;

Whereas, The United States government has barred these high-level officials from visiting Washington, D.C., while allowing the unelected leaders of the People's Republic of China to routinely visit Washington, D.C., and welcoming



them to the White House;

Whereas, These restrictions deprive the President, Congress, and the American public of the opportunity to engage in a direct dialogue regarding developments in the Asia-Pacific region and key elements of the relationship between the United States and Taiwan;

Whereas, Whenever high-level visitors from Taiwan, including the President, seek to come to the United States, their request involves a period of complex, lengthy, and humiliating negotiations;

Whereas, Lifting these restrictions will help bring a United States friend and ally out of its isolation, benefiting peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, In consideration of the major economic, security, and political interests shared by the United States and Taiwan, it is to the benefit of the United States for United States officials to meet and communicate directly with the democratically elected leaders of Taiwan;

Whereas, Since the Taiwan Strait is one of the flashpoints in the world, it is essential that United States policymakers directly communicate with the leaders of Taiwan; and

Whereas, Section 221 of the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) provides that the President or other high-level officials of Taiwan may visit the United States, including Washington D.C., at any time to discuss a variety of important issues: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses the
2 sense that restrictions on visits to the United States by high-level
3 elected and appointed officials of Taiwan, including the
4 democratically-elected President of Taiwan, should be lifted.

5 SECTION 2. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses the
6 sense that the United States should allow direct high-level exchanges



1 at the Cabinet level in order to strengthen a policy dialogue with the
2 government of Taiwan.

3 SECTION 3. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses the
4 sense that it is in the interest of the United States to strengthen links
5 between the United States and the democratically elected government
6 of Taiwan and demonstrate stronger support for democracy in the
7 Asia-Pacific region.

8 SECTION 4. That copies of this resolution be transmitted by the
9 Secretary of the Senate to John Conklin, the President of the Formosan
10 Association for Public Affairs Indiana Chapter.

